



Photo by U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Adam Johnston, 455th Expeditionary Operations Group

It's good!

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Gary Walden raises his arms indicating a field goal and the first points scored in the Super Bowl while watching the game at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan Monday morning. As coworkers Tech. Sgts. Van Hess (middle) and Tech. Sgt. Roy Mumey stew over the play. Airmen had to rise at 2320Z. Monday to catch the annual event in a recreation center at Air Force Village. All three airmen are A-10 avionics technicians with the 104th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron and are deployed here from the Maryland Air National Guard. Walden was rooting for the Oakland Raiders to win while Hess and Mumey were hoping for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to capture the football championship.

Dishing it up

Army retiree still serves troops

Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – Many retirees have little opportunity to guide today's soldiers, but one has taken the opportunity by the stomach.

Rickey Miller, Kellogg, Brown and Root employee, is a retired soldier here who serves the military daily.

"When I retired, I wanted to work for Brown and Root. I went to a job fair and turned in my resume. I have a background in cooking," said Miller. "I always wanted to work overseas, so Brown and Root was the best way to do that."

Miller received the phone call he waited three weeks for on Oct. 18. Next, he went to Houston for a background check and other tests. He finally arrived here Nov. 5.

All Brown and Root contracts are for one year. After the year, the employee may choose to extend their contract. Miller plans on extending his contract for the next five years.

"I like working for Brown and Root. When I

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'Pops' Place' offers a little taste of home

By Sgt. Valerie Dey-Bolejack,
109th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — As you walk through the entryway of the 82nd Airborne Dining Facility everything seems normal. A tent with wash stations leading through to green wooden doors. The equipment on the line is all standard Army issue. But inside is a crew of cooks with a smile, who make you feel welcome in their facility and who are proud of the food they are serving. And inside the seating area waiting to greet you and chat, to welcome you to "his" place, is Pops.

Come on down for a good hot meal, we'll welcome you with a smile. We are here to bring you a little bit of home. You are now at Pops' Place.

Pops is in real life Sgt 1st Class Anthony Everett. Everett is the Base Operations food service advisor for Bagram. But every evening when the doors open for dinner at the 82nd Dining Facility, Everett is Pops, with a jaunty white hat, and cleaning supplies in hand, he meets and greets his friends who come to have dinner at his place.

In his capacity as food service advisor, Everett is working to develop menus for all five Dining Facilities. He has the additional

food items on order and hopes to have a new 14-day menu plan on line soon. This will bring a new standard of good meals to the dining facilities, with a lot of flexibility built in to the plan as well. It allows the cooks to strut their stuff and to provide variety to their diners.

In the evening, Everett dons his white paper hat with "Pops' Place" written on the sides and comes over to make the meals a little more pleasant. Everett says, "It's a morale booster, to enjoy a good meal, to put aside the worries of the day, to enjoy the atmosphere."

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

Pentagon: U.S. could be ready for war by mid-February

UNITED NATIONS — On the heels of a U.N. report that said Iraq was resisting inspectors trying to verify disarmament, the Pentagon told CNN Monday that the U.S. military will be ready by mid-to-late February to quickly go to war if President Bush gives the order.

Officials also said that if Iraq were to make an aggressive move before then, the United States could respond instantly, but any action might be limited to strikes by fighters, bombers and cruise missiles.

The February time frame refers to the goal of being ready with a full-invasion force that could achieve the goals of disarmament and regime change.

Also Monday, U.S. intelligence revealed photographic evidence gathered in recent days that Iraqi forces have moved an increasing number of hand-held surface-to-air missile launchers and anti-aircraft artillery pieces into key locations in and around the capital, Baghdad.

CNN has been told the imagery shows launch sites on civilian buildings and other areas the United States would hesitate to strike. This has been a key Iraqi tactic for years, but it has been stepped up in anticipation of a U.S. strike.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell warned Monday that there was “not much more time” for Iraq to verify that it has complied with a U.N. resolution to disarm.

“The issue is not how much more time the inspectors need to search in the dark, it is how much more time Iraq should be given to turn on the lights and come clean,” Powell said. “Iraq’s time for choosing peaceful disarmament is fast coming to an end.”

Attack eases, blame game surges

CNN — An Internet worm that struck thousands of computers this weekend, crashing bank cash machines and snarling Internet connections, caused limited disruptions as businesses in the United States and Europe fired up their computers Monday.

Some Bank of America ATMs were still



Analysts check the status of the Internet at Web security company Little eArth in Tokyo, Japan.

out Monday, primarily in the Southeast, a bank spokesman said. And analysts blamed a dip in South Korea’s stock market on the worm taking down most Internet connections in the country over the weekend.

In all, security firms estimated the “Slammer” worm, the worst act of Web sabotage in 18 months, affected tens of thousands of computers worldwide and caused millions of dollars in losses to Internet-related businesses.

Sharon drafts victory speech

TELAVIV, Israel — Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was working on his victory speech Monday — his election victory a foregone conclusion, according to the polls.

He is expected to include an appeal to the Labor Party to rejoin a national unity government for Israel, according to his aides.

On the eve of Tuesday’s election, polls published in Israeli newspapers showed Sharon’s Likud party winning between 30 and 33 seats in the 120-member Knesset, Israel’s parliament.

The Labor Party, which triggered the election by walking out of Sharon’s unity government last October, was projected to get between 18 and 19 seats.

The secular Shinui Party was projected to get between 14 and 16 seats.

Sharon will have to put together a coalition of at least 61 seats to govern.

Aides said in his speech Sharon will appeal personally to Labor Party leader Amram Mitzna to join the government, something Mitzna has vowed not to do.

Dow below 8,000

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks retreated Monday after reports from U.N. weapons inspectors failed to quiet fears about the potential for war with Iraq. Tuesday’s market seemed primed for similar weakness, ahead of President Bush’s annual State of the Union address.

In addition, Tuesday brings earnings reports from Dow components Merck, DuPont, Procter & Gamble and SBC Communications, as well as biotech Biogen, chipmaker Novellus and business software company Veritas Software.

Investors will also take in economic reports on consumer confidence, durable goods orders, and new home sales. And that’s not to mention the two-day meeting of the Federal Reserve’s policy-setting Federal Open Market Committee, set to begin Tuesday.

North Korea lashes out at IAEA

SEOUL, South Korea — As South Korean envoys meet North Korean officials in a bid to resolve the North’s nuclear dispute, Pyongyang has hit out at the U.N. nuclear agency, saying it is in no position to address the impasse.

South Korea’s top envoy, former reunification minister Lim Dong-won, arrived in Pyongyang late Monday, dispatched by President Kim Dae-jung to try to persuade the secretive North to halt its nuclear ambitions.

Though Lim — accompanied in North Korea by an envoy from President-elect Roh Moo-hyun — has said he expects no quick fix to the prolonged standoff between Pyongyang and Washington, hopes for some sort of breakthrough rose after the North called Sunday for inter-Korean cooperation on the matter.

That unusually friendly tone spilled over into Monday’s meeting in Pyongyang between Lim and Kim Yong Sun, an aide to North Korean leader Kim Jong Il and head of the committee which handles inter-Korean affairs.

In a report released by Seoul, the Lim-Kim meeting “discussed matters of mutual concern related to the situation on the Korean Peninsula in a sincere atmosphere.”

Raiders fan sticks with his team

By Pfc. Charles D. Meseke
Coalition Task Force-82 PAO

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – Even with the Raiders loss to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in this year's Super Bowl, one fan refuses to lose faith in his team.

Maj. Jose Ross sits quietly clutching an Oakland Raiders football, eyes glued to a 15 inch television in the corner of the tent. With a Raiders lighter sitting on his nightstand and a bedspread adorned with the team logo, the theme is apparent. Ross intends to bring a bit of what fans call Raider Nation worldwide while

serving as the C-2 plans officer in charge of Coalition Task Force 82.

"I have been an Oakland Raiders fan all my life," the 38-year-old Ross said.

The rough and tough attitude of past Raiders teams was what attracted Ross. Players like the hard-hitting safety Jack Tatum, and the wide receiver Fred "sticky fingers" Biletnikoff helped fuel the tough image, Ross said.

Jack Tatum is Ross's favorite Raider's player of all time and Tim Brown is his favorite current player.

The fanaticism has also gone to a new

generation of Raiders fans. Ross proudly displays pictures of his three daughters dressed in their Sunday best — Raiders shirts and face paint for game day.

Although Ross follows the team like any dedicated fan through television he also feels it's important to support his favorite team in person.

"I try to make it to one game a year," said Ross, "I usually fly in for the game and a friend of mine comes up from San Diego."

The only time Ross admits to missing all the games of a season was during his deployment to Bosnia and his current deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Even while fighting the War on Terror, Ross tracks the Raiders success on the Internet and with his subscription to *Silver and Black Magazine*, a weekly publication about Raiders football.

With the Raiders decor ever present in his living area, Ross' tent mates know they have a serious football fan living with them.

"They (tent mates) think it's cool that someone is into their team this much," Ross said.

It may seem as if Ross brought much of his Raiders paraphernalia with him to Bagram, but he assures that he has a couple thousand autographed pieces of memorabilia at home. The most prized item in the collection is a football autographed by Tim Brown.

"True fans stick with their team," Ross said "We lost, but the team is exhausted, so the off season will be good for them."



Photo by Pfc. Charles D. Meseke, Coalition Task Force-82

Maj. Jose' Ross, C-2 plans officer in charge of Coalition Task Force-82 shows his silver and black pride.

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was a meat cutter, I would work late hours and would be cut early sometimes. I would work four to six hours. With Brown and Root, I work 12 hours minimum,"

Working for Brown and Root may be a good job, but the soldiers are the main reason Miller is here.

"The soldiers are fun to be around. I meet a lot of new people from all over the world," said Miller. "Since I'm a retiree, I

enjoy being around the soldiers,"

Miller talks with the soldiers to share his experience.

"I talk with the soldiers about how the Army used to be. A lot of them are homesick and I try to keep up their motivation," said Miller.

"I tell the soldiers to take their mission seriously — stay focused on the job," he added.

Being retired military, Miller feels he understands the soldiers more than other Brown and Root employees.



Rickey Miller

"I think I understand the soldiers more because I am retired. I understand how they feel. I understand what it's like to sleep on a cot and fitting your area so

it's comfortable to you — making it cozy for you,"

Miller is happy with his decision to work for Brown and Root and hopes other soldiers will see it as an opportunity when they leave the military.

"I encourage soldiers, when they ETS or retire, to come work for Brown and Root. It's a very good company to work for," said Miller "If the soldier has no other plans — if they don't plan to go to college, I would tell them to look into it."

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "Last Call."
Movie tagline: When there's no place left to go but home.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Legend of the Drunken Master."

No poster or
image stills
available for
this film.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Wenesday</i>
Bagram:	Cloudy H: 45F L: 28F	Rain H: 48F L: 28F
Kandahar:	Partly cloudy H: 59F L: 36F	Scattered showers H: 57F L: 34F
Kabul:	Haze H: 50F L: 25F	Rain H: 54F L: 28F
Uzbekistan:	Mostly cloudy H: 46F L: 34F	Mostly cloudy H: 43F L: 36F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team



Photo by Sgt. Valerie Dey-Bolejack, 109th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Sgt. 1st Class Anthony "Pops" Everett, Base Operations food service advisor, cleans up in the 82nd Airborne Dining Facility.

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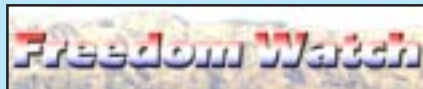
Everett has been in Army food service for 18 years now. The first "Pops' Place" opened in Kauserslaten, Germany in 1996. He's been at Bagram for two months now, but became "Pops" at the 82nd at the first of the year.

Instead of a young troop busing the tables, he allows them to do their job while he cleans up and gathers the trays throughout the meal. It's not just his customers that are happier, the soldiers working there are happier as well. Everett says his soldiers like the atmosphere and it allows them to do the job they were trained to do.

One of the cooks, Spc. Dyrel Treadwell, has been here for eight months and said that working at Pops' Place is the "Best I've had." He said, "It's a nice place. It's a better atmosphere; everybody is happier."

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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

In Ah'z of Arizona

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Wasn't it Dorothy who lamented to that cute little Toto that "we aren't in Kansas anymore"?

Or was it Roy Williams whose *Kansas team* didn't seem to be in Kansas anymore? At least not as of Saturday afternoon when No. 1 (any more questions?) Arizona kept climbing back into another significant game, kept clawing away at a huge deficit, kept sending wave upon wave of athletes out onto the hallowed hardwood of Allen Field House, until the home team had been swallowed into oblivion by the same kind of mighty twister that sent Dorothy and her dog, and most of the other Kansans in the vicinity, hurtling into Oz.

Not that the proud Jayhawks were left searching for their courage, heart or brains. Or that they were left to stew in some kind of Totoian mess, muttering like, well, mutts. But after Lute Olson and his rapidly rapacious horde had finished their stunning 91-74 blowout — a goateed, lefthander named Salim Stoudamire absolutely tornadoing the house for a career high 32 points mostly from downtown Topeka as Kansas was fogged in Phog for the first time in 26 games — the losers did sound confused.

"This was unbelievable," said Kansas' Nick Collison.

"I don't think I know what happened," said Kansas' Jeff Graves.

"It's impossible to figure out, much less explain it," said Williams.

So it was left to Kansas' Keith Langford — the slashing swingman who had ripped Arizona for 22 points in that halcyon first half in which the Jayhawks had once led by 20, but who could only scratch for five points in the second half when they were outscored by 30 — to sound the simple, irrefutable explanation about his team's worst home defeat in 14 years. "It go in ..." said the wily new Wizard of Oz and latter-day logician of Lawrence, "... or it don't."

It Go In for Kansas at will in the first half when the Jayhawks looked every bit the contender for national honors they were perceived to be at the beginning of the season when this matchup looked like it would be Number One vs Number Two in college hoops' own Super Bowl weekend. Arizona had held up its end by shrugging off a lone loss at LSU and rising again to the top. "They've got three guys I tried my darndest to recruit — and they don't even start," said Williams, speaking of freshmen Hassan Adams and Andre Iguodala and Kansas native Dennis Latimore. "We're not playing Alvamar Tech here, folks."

Meanwhile, Kansas had stumbled out of the box before winning

10 in a row to climb back up to No. 6. But a shocking loss at Colorado earlier in the week was another setback — exposing the team's lack of depth, especially on the boards. "We'd rather have had them won," Olson said, flicking any advantage aside as easily as he flicks that silver mane into place. "Guys who are really competitive play the next game with smoke coming out of their ears."



Nick Collison isn't getting the help he needs off the Kansas bench.

Gillispie apologizes for unfavorable publicity

EL PASO, Texas — Texas-El Paso basketball coach Billy Gillispie apologized Monday for the unfavorable publicity that his weekend arrest on DWI charges brought to the university and to the basketball program, but denied he did anything improper.

"I'm not apologizing for anything I did. What I am apologizing for is any negative attention which has been brought to the city of El Paso, the university and the basketball program," Gillispie said at an afternoon news conference.

Gillispie, 43, was stopped about 2:20 a.m. Sunday after making a wrong turn onto a one-way street in downtown El Paso, police said.

Saturday night, Gillispie had coached UTEP (4-12 overall, 2-5 Western Athletic Conference) to an 85-78 overtime victory over Boise State. Gillispie became the Miners' head coach after Jason Rabedeaux resigned for personal reasons less than three weeks before the team's first game.

"What I want to say is, I was not driving while intoxicated," Gillispie said.

After holding him for several hours, police told him he was free to go home, Gillispie said.

Much to his surprise, Gillispie said, a police officer knocked on his door late Sunday afternoon and said he was being arrested.

Gillispie was released from jail on \$750 bond Sunday night. The misdemeanor charge carries a possible penalty of six months in jail and up to \$2,000 in fines for a first offense.

Stray bullet paralyzes Archie

ITTA BENA, Miss. — Mississippi Valley State guard Michael Archie was paralyzed by a stray bullet fired in a nightclub shootout, his family said Monday.

Archie was hit in the side early Sunday in a shooting that also left a man dead and wounded two others, including volleyball player

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Danielle France.

Doctors told Carol Archie that her son is "essentially" paralyzed from the waist down.

"The doctors are saying he will not have the use of his legs," she said from her son's room at the University Medical Center in Jackson.

The 20-year-old starter averaged 11.2 points this season. He was shot hours after scoring 11 points in a 87-68 home win against Prairie View A&M.

Gunshots were fired inside the nightclub after a fight broke out, Leflore County Sheriff Ricky Banks said.

Alonzo Hemphill allegedly fired a gun before being shot and killed. Sheriff's deputies arrested a club security guard, Banks said. It was unclear whose shots injured the other men.

Cowboys' run dooms Texas Tech

LUBBOCK, Texas — Melvin Sanders was the man at the start of the game and Victor Williams starred at the beginning of the second half of the Cowboys' 79-70 on Sunday.

"They just beat us badly in both situations," Texas Tech coach Bob Knight said. "And we couldn't come back from that. They played really well in those periods."

Sanders, who finished with 17 points, hit three straight 3-point-

ers in the game's first four minutes. Williams got seven of his 24 points in the first 2½ minutes of the second half.

"Everybody steps up on any given night," Oklahoma State's Andre Williams said of the Cowboys' winning streak. "Anybody can score a bunch of points and we need to keep that rolling to keep this rolling."

Oklahoma State (16-1, 5-0 Big 12) scored on seven of its first nine possessions in the second half and used a 14-0 run to take a 54-39 lead.

Many of the Cowboys points came on fast breaks from turnovers and rebounds. The Cowboys outscored Tech 18-4 in fast break points.

"We got a lot of baskets in transition today," Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton said. "If Bob were to be critical of his team, it might be in the fact that we beat them down the floor some and got some baskets."

BYU has first home loss in almost 3 years

PROVO, Utah — Kerry Rupp is 1-0 as a college coach and Brigham Young's home winning streak is over.

Rupp stepped in when Utah coach Rick Majerus couldn't make Saturday's game at BYU because he was attending a funeral and the Utes responded with a 79-75 win, making them the first opponent to win at the Marriott Center in nearly three years.

"To be honest with you, I didn't sleep that much. But I looked at it as a great opportunity for me," said Rupp, who is in his second season as an assistant to Majerus. "I can't take full credit. Coach (Majerus) put the game plan in and had everything ready. It was just a matter of keeping the kids focused."

NCAA Division 1: ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll

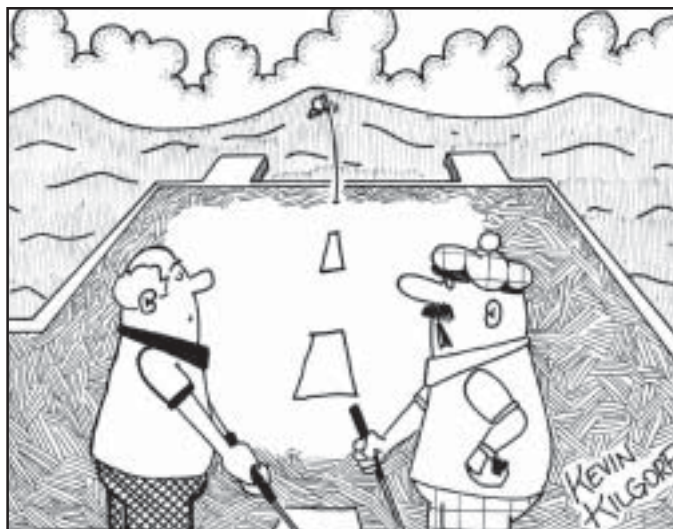


Team	Record
1. Arizona	15-1
2. Pittsburgh	15-1
3. Texas	13-2
4. Florida	16-2
5. Duke	13-2
6. Oklahoma	13-3
7. Kentucky	15-3
8. Louisville	14-1
9. Maryland	12-4
10. Notre Dame	16-3
11. Oklahoma State	16-1
12. Connecticut	12-3

Team	Record
13. Kansas	13-5
14. Illinois	14-3
15. Creighton	17-2
16. Marquette	13-3
17. Georgia	12-4
18. Wake Forest	13-2
19. Oregon	14-4
20. Indiana	14-4
21. Alabama	12-5
22. Mississippi State	12-4
23. Xavier	14-4
24. California	14-2
25. Missouri	11-4



"And they say there's serious water hazards on the pro tour ..."



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support